

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge Mr. Lucio E. Perez for his years of devoted service to the Napa Valley community.

HONORING VERONICA LEWIS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute an outstanding Federal employee and citizen of the District of Columbia, Veronica Lewis, who is retiring this month after forty-one years of service with the Federal Government. Ms. Lewis, a dedicated public servant, is known for her contributions to both the government and to her fellow employees.

Ms. Lewis has lived and worked in Washington, DC all of her life. She began her career as a public employee in 1970 as a personnel information assistant with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In 1986, she became a secretary with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), where she is still employed today, in the agency's Division of Corporation Finance. She has been a loyal and dedicated Federal employee for the past 4 decades.

Ms. Lewis attended public schools in the District of Columbia. Prior to her career with the Federal Government, she worked for the Metropolitan Police Department and also as a teacher's aide at Taft Junior High School.

In 2000, Ms. Lewis was one of the original founders of the Federal employee union that now represents all of the non-management employees at the SEC National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU), Chapter 293. She served as the union's chief steward for several years and, since 2006, has served as the vice president of Chapter 293.

Ms. Lewis has two children, Cecilia Vernet Camp and Edward Walker, and three grandchildren, Angela Lewis-Camp, Veronica Lewis-Camp, and Edward Walker, Jr. In retirement, Ms. Lewis plans to travel as well as to volunteer at St. Jude Children's Hospital. Her hobbies are dancing, traveling and bicycling.

Mr. Speaker, Veronica Lewis has been a dedicated civil servant all of her adult life, both as an SEC employee and as a leader of NTEU Chapter 293. It is appropriate that we honor her today for her many contributions and congratulate her on her retirement from the Federal Government.

CONGRATULATING TIM SOLSO OF CUMMINS, INC. ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Tim Solso for his successful and influential career as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Cummins Inc., located in my hometown of Columbus, Indiana. After forty years of dedicated service, he is set to retire from Cummins on December 31st of this year.

During his career at Cummins, Tim Solso lived the American dream and proved that hard work pays off. He first joined Cummins in 1971 after receiving a Master of Business Administration degree from Harvard University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from DePauw University. His first position with Cummins was as an assistant to the Vice President of Personnel, and during his career Tim worked in several of Cummins' international locations—including Huddersfield, England, and Sao Paulo, Brazil. In 2000 he was named Chairman and CEO.

Under Tim's extraordinary leadership as CEO, Cummins experienced record profits of more than \$1 billion, and the company's shareholders enjoyed an astonishing return of 1,300 percent. International business at Cummins grew 20 percent from 2000 to 2010, and they have truly established themselves as a global leader in their industry.

Tim has also received many personal accolades for his achievements with Cummins including: named a top five finalist to Marketwatch's CEO of the Decade in 2010; named one of Barron's list of the thirty Most Respected CEOs for 2010 and 2011; selected as the national Six Sigma CEO of the year; received the Anti-Defamation League's Man of Achievement Award; named the International Executive of the Year by the Academy of International Business; and received the American Business Award for Best Chairman.

While I am confident that Cummins will continue to grow under new leadership, there is no doubt that Tim's legacy will continue to have a lasting impact on Cummins and on the Columbus community. I wish him the very best in his retirement and in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING MADELEINE JARAS, ELMHURST, IL "MAYOR FOR A DAY"

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an aspiring leader from my Congressional District, Madeleine Jaras. Madeleine's essay was recently selected as the winner of the City of Elmhurst's "Mayor for a Day" competition. On behalf of this Congressional body, I welcome Madeleine and her family to our nation's capital.

The text of Madeleine's essay reads as follows: "If I were Mayor of Elmhurst, I would demonstrate my Trustworthiness to the citizens of Elmhurst by following through with my promises, being honest, being reliable, being loyal, being dependable, and having the courage to do the right thing, not always the easy thing. All these things are hard sometimes, but if I were Mayor, I would try my hardest to make the citizens safe, happy, and help the city of Elmhurst blossom into an even greater community than the past leaders have made it."

Even in her youth, Madeleine recognizes that in light of today's critical debates, tough decisions need to be made with great integrity. Madeleine's virtuous beliefs should serve as a reminder to all citizens and leaders that we should be courteous of others, and that honesty is of utmost importance. Her positive out-

look is exemplary of her outstanding character.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, Madeleine Jaras is a promising young leader, full of modesty and confidence. It is truly a privilege to serve as her Representative. Please join me in honoring Madeleine's spirit and wishing her all the best in her future endeavors.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2354) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chair, I rise in strident opposition to H.R. 2354, the Energy and Water Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2012. This unfortunate bill is just another in a long line of Republican attempts to sabotage policies put in place to protect the health and safety of Americans, as well as to improve the environment while at the same time fostering economic recovery. I categorically reject the Republicans' cynical and shortsighted approach to governing and urge my colleagues to follow suit by opposing this bill.

I am not without justification in my criticism of H.R. 2354. To be clear, it contains a rider to block the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ability to clarify the scope of the Clean Water Act, landmark legislation that I helped write and pass into law. The bill also blocks EPA's authority to oversee mountaintop removal coal mining, effectively allowing mountains to be carved away at corporate leisure. Finally, the bill would remove EPA's authority to make storm water programs more effective, which strikes me as curious given my Republicans' bent on making government leaner, meaner, and more effective. On a broader note, H.R. 2354 constitutes an attack on the integrity of the Clean Water Act, which has helped restore the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters. Just as this bill would allow coal companies to carve away mountains, so too would it carve away EPA's precious and necessary authorities under the Clean Water Act.

H.R. 2354's assault on Americans and their environment extends beyond allowing the desecration of the beautiful waters they so treasure. The bill also curtails programs meant to advance economic recovery in a manner more sustainable for the environment. While I commend my colleagues on the House Appropriations Energy and Water Subcommittee for dedicating funding to repair the damage caused by the recent storms and floods, I do not agree with taking funding from critical infrastructure projects that offer enormous economic impacts in a myriad of communities across this country. If my colleagues recognize the storms and floods as emergency events, then they should have had the fortitude to allocate emergency funding to these

repairs outside of the normal appropriations process.

By nature high-speed rail funding are immediate economic generators. Under H.R. 2354, the 15th District is slated to lose more than \$495 million in funding awarded to four high-speed rail projects in our district. The projects that would be derailed are the development of new train stations in Ann Arbor and Dearborn, the joint Midwest Regional Rail passenger rail equipment purchase, and the rehabilitation and improvement of track between Kalamazoo and Dearborn. This rescission will result in the loss of as many as 13,008 jobs.

And as if cutting funds for mass transit were not enough, H.R. 2354 also seeks to eviscerate the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing loan program, which helps automakers and suppliers produce more fuel efficient vehicles and decrease U.S. dependence on foreign oil. This is the height of folly and quite frankly indefensible.

Mr. Chair, for all of these reasons and more, I oppose H.R. 2354 and urge my colleagues to do so as well. Their children and grandchildren will thank them if they do.

TRIBUTE TO THORNE MAGINNIS
AND OTHER YOUNG STAFF MEMBERS
FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS
ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE
OF THE 37TH CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is no exaggeration to say that the past few years have been among the challenging in our nation's history. The collapse of the housing market, the turmoil on Wall Street and the ensuing financial crisis, the severe economic downturn resulting in the loss of millions of middle-class jobs, and the ever present threat of terrorist attacks on our homeland are enough to make many question whether the American Dream is still attainable and to conclude that our best days are behind us.

I do not share this view. The future of our country is bright and I firmly believe that our best days lie ahead. One of the reasons I am so optimistic that 21st century will be known as the second "American Century" is the extraordinary quality, talent, commitment, and energy of the young people who will in time assume the responsibility of leadership.

Members of Congress know well, perhaps better than most, how blessed our nation is to have in reserve such exceptional young men and women who will go on to become leaders in their local communities, states, and the nation in the areas of business, education, government, philanthropy, the arts and culture, and the military.

We know this because we see them and benefit from their contributions every day. Many of them work for us in our offices as junior staff members, congressional fellows, or interns and they do amazing work for and on behalf of the constituents we are privileged to represent.

I rise today to pay tribute to the wonderful young men and women who have done this work in my office for my constituents.

Today, I bid farewell to an extraordinary young man, Thorne Maginnis, who joined my team in January of last year and who will be moving on to attend law school this fall at the University of Virginia. From his first day on my staff Thorne's talents as writer, analyst, and researcher were apparent for all to observe. These gifts, combined with his winning personality and cooperative spirit made him an invaluable staffer and a valued friend to his colleagues, who all will miss his good cheer but wish him well in his future endeavors, which I am confident will include continued service in furtherance of the public interest.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there is no higher calling than the call to serve a cause larger than ourselves. That is why I ran for public office. When I was six years old I dreamed of becoming a public servant when I grew up so I could help others. As the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King once said:

Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

By this measure, there are several other great young men and women who served as volunteers this year in my offices. They may toil in obscurity but their contributions to the constituents we serve are deeply appreciated and I wish to acknowledge them. They are: Devin Benavidez, Elliott Bluffer, Laura Sisemore, Chris Robinson, Carlos Jurado, Jerry Boies, Sunjay Bhatia, Jazmine Florence, and Renata Harris. In past years, my office has benefitted from the contributions of other volunteers, including Helen Lei, Navy San, Chris Prado, Jimmie Luthuli, Erika Wright, Peter Ward, Alyce Boatwright, Tom DeMaio, and Brittni Hamilton.

Mr. Speaker, the infusion of energy, intelligence, and idealism young people bring to their internships in my office and those of my colleagues helps keep our democracy vibrant. The insights, skills, and knowledge of the governmental process they gain from their experiences will last a lifetime and prove invaluable to them as they go about making their mark in this world.

This is why I am so optimistic about our country's prospects for the future. As Margaret Mead said:

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

I am grateful that such thoughtful committed young men and women can be found working in my office, those of my colleagues, and in every community in America. Their good works will keep America great and as they age, they will ensure she stays forever young.

THE MEK STILL WAITS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, almost a year ago to the day, on July 16, 2010, the U.S. Court of Appeals ordered the U.S. State Department to go back and re-evaluate the "terrorist" designation of the MEK. Since then, the State Department has stalled. At hearings and in letter after letter, Congress has asked for updates but the State Department just

plays the same tape over and over "we're working on it."

What exactly is taking so long? We haven't seen any new evidence. All the old evidence, classified and unclassified, does not describe a terrorist group, but a bunch of people that want to be free. They have given up their weapons, forsworn terrorism, and only ask that they can live in peace without being massacred by Iraqi troops or Iranian agents. Enough with the stalling. The State Department needs to get its act together and make a decision. If there is evidence of terrorism, show us. But if there is not, then take this group off the list today.

And that's just the way it is.

IN SUPPORT OF KOREAN WAR
MEMORIAL WALL

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to introduce—together with Representatives SAM JOHNSON, HOWARD COBLE, JOHN CONYERS, JR., and JOHN DINGELL—a bill to amend legislation authorizing the Korean War Veterans Memorial to permit the addition of a Wall of Remembrance. P.L. 99-527 stated as a priority ". . . to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Korean War, particularly those who were killed in action, are still missing in action, or were held as prisoners of war." This bill seeks to further honor those who gave their lives to preserve freedom, not only for the Republic of Korea but for the entire non-communist world. To the 33,686 Americans killed in action this was not an abstract geopolitical issue, nor was it a "cold war." The Korean War, fought some 60 years ago, was a desperate fight to stop the spread of totalitarian regimes and signaled to North Korea that the United States would support our friends and allies.

The Korean War is sometimes referred to as the "forgotten war," a footnote between the Second World War and the Vietnam War. The sacrifice our young men paid to preserve our freedom should not be forgotten. This legislation will ensure that their deeds will be memorialized for all Americans to see on our National Mall. For, as the "greatest generation" of Americans fought World War II to save the world for democracy, the Korean War generation of Americans fought to save the world from communism.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial was dedicated in 1995. It is an extraordinarily moving memorial. Our legislation will permit, through private sector contributions, a glass Wall of Remembrance to encircle the outer edge of the existing Memorial Pool. This wall will list the Americans killed in action by name, and will list the wounded, missing in action, and prisoners of war by number. It will also honor the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army (KATUSA) that served alongside their U.S. comrades in American units to maintain our frontline combat strengths. Over 8,000 members of the KATUSA gave their lives for their country and ours. Their names were lost to history, but their numbers deserve recognition for the sacrifices that would otherwise have been American casualties. This bill